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Reserve



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No. 117

RALEIGH, N. C.

SEPTEMBER 5, 1952

# AGRI CULTURAL PRI CES AND OTHER CURRENT I TEM S

C PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

N. C. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

The "All Farm Products" index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets increased 14 points during the month ended August 15. The August 15 index of 309 compares with an index of 277 a year ago and an index of 270 on August 15, 1950.

The grains commodity index increased from 188 in mid-July to 194 in mid-August, All grains advanced during the month with rye and barley showing the strongest advance. Both corn and oats increased 7 cents per bushel.

The cotton and cottonseed index increased from 309 to 314 as the result of slightly higher prices for cotton. Cottonseed at \$69.00 per ton was unchanged from July.

The increase of \$1.30 per hundred pounds in hog prices off-set decreased prices for beef cattle, veal calves and lambs. As a result the index increased from 400 to 401 during the month.

The poultry index increased 31 points during the month as the result of an increase of 1.4 cents in the price of chickens and an increase of 7.7 cents per dozen in the price of eggs.

Slightly higher prices for milk and butterfat raised the dairy products index 4 points during the month ended August

Increased prices for soybeans, potatoes and sweetpotatoes raised the miscellaneous products index 21 points, i.e., from 295 to 316.

The ratio of prices received by North Carolina farmers to prices paid by U. S. farmers increased from 103 on July 15 to 110 on August 15.

(See Table on Page 2)

# JULY HATCHINGS SHOW SHARP SEASONAL DROP

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced a total of 4,063,000 chicks during July. This was a drop of 13 percent from June hatchings and though seasonal in nature was a much sharper decline than occurred at the same time in 1951. A scarcity of hatching eggs was one

(Continued on Page 3)

U.S. PRICES PAID SLIGHTLY HIGHER PARITY RATIO UNCHANGED AT 103

Prices received by U. S. farmers averaged the same in mid-August as a month ago, leaving the index at 295, but the Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates at 287 was one pointone third of one percent - higher. The Parity Ratio (Ratio of the Index of prices Received by Farmers to the Index of Paid by Farmers, including Interest, Taxes, and Wage Rates) remained unchanged at 103.

Price changes for U. S. farm products were mixed, with prices of poultry, dairy products, hogs, small grains, hay, and potatoes higher than a month ago. Offsetting declines were recorded for truck crops, cattle, calves, several fruit crops, and sweet potatoes. The all commodities index in mid-August was 3 points (1 percent) above August last year, with the increase in the all crops index being partially offset by the reduction in the livestock and products index.

The increase in the Parity Index resulted from the 1 point rise in the production goods index. With respect to prices paid by farmers for such items, prices paid for feed and motor supplies averaged higher, but prices for feeder and stocker cattle were down. Prices paid for com-

(Continued on Page 4)

N.C. TURKEY PRODUCTION EXPECTED TO TOP MILLION MARK

According to an August 1 survey of turkey producers in North Carolina production of turkeys in the State this year will total 1,018,000 birds. This is the first season of record that the number of turkeys raised in North Carolina has reached or exceeded a million birds. The number raised for this season is 30 percent above last year and about three and one-half times as great as the 1939-48 average.

The past 2 years have shown rather sharp gains in turkey production in North Carolina. The introduction of Beltsville White turkeys for market as fryers and broilers on a near year-round basis has accounted for much of the gain in total number of birds raised.

For the Nation reports indicate that a record crop of 58,956,000 turkeys are being raised this year -- 13 percent more than last year. Turkey production is above that of last year in all regions of the country -- 41 percent in the South Atlantic, 21 percent in the North Atlantic, 17 percent in the East North Central, 9 percent in the South Central, 5 percent in the West North Central States.

Production of Beltsville White turkeys has been increasing during the last 3 (Continued on Page 4)

# TURKEYS RAISED ON FARMS 1952, WITH COMPARISONS

STATE		NUMBER RAISED 1/							
DIVISION	AVERAGE 1939 - 48	1949 2/	1950 2/	1951 2/	INDICATED 1952 3/	1952 AS % OF 1951			
N. C. DEL. MD. VA. W. VA. S. C. GA. FLA.	303 101 409 1,028 332 280 150	486 118 417 1,765 682 714 301 125	559 124 438 2.294 887 771 316 131	783 143 460 3.670 1.064 1.002 569 151	1.018 186 529 5.945 1.330 1.252 615	130 130 115 162 125 125 108 108			
S. ATL.	2,711	4,608	5,520	7.842	11,038	141			
N. ATL. E. N. CENT. W. N. CENT. S. CENT. WEST	2,686 3,518 10,454 5,338 10,274	3.621 4.832 10.125 4.326 13.754	3.899 5.368 11.095 4.749 13,161	4.307 6.050 12.290 5.446 16.317	5.199 7.072 12.520 5.952 17.175	121 117 102 109 105			
U. S.	34,982	41.266	43,792	52,252	58,956	113			

1/ Includes Beltville Whites 2/ Revised 3/ Preliminary estimates as of Aug. 1,1952

#### LEAF TOBACCO INVENTORIES LARGER

Leaf tobacco inventories owned by dealers and manufacturers in the United States and Puerto Rico totaled 3,826 million pounds (farm-sales-weight) as of July 1, 1952. Holdings this July 1 were 253 million pounds or 7 percent greater than a year earlier. Most of the increase was in flue-cured and Burley stocks. An estimated 50 million pounds from the previous year's crop entered stocks during the April-June quarter, consisting principally of Maryland, Pennsylvania filler and Puerto Rican tobacco.

Included in total stocks as of July 1 were about 430 million pounds (farm-sales-weight) of leaf under Government loans. This consisted of approximately 181 million pounds of flue-cured tobacco; 138 million of Burley; 52.1 million of fire-cured; 7.8 million of Maryland; 31.0 million of dark air-cured; and 20.0 million

of cigar-leaf types.

Flue-cured tobacco stocks reported as of July 1, 1952 totaled 1,731 million pounds for an increase of 173 million compared with the previous July 1. Disappearance of flue-cured tobacco during the marketing year just ended (July 1951-June 1952) was the greatest on record. As indicated by changes in stocks, disappearance totaled 1,279 million pounds compared with 1,184 million during the previous year. Domestic usage reached a new peak of 780 to 785 million pounds during the year compared with 756 during the previous marketing year. Exports were also larger during the past year, totaling 495 to 500 million pounds as against 428 million marketed abroad during the prior year.

Burley tobacco inventories of dealers and manufacturers totaled 1,205 million pounds as of July 1, 1952 for an increase of 85 mil-

lion compared with holdings as of July 1 last year.

Holdings of Maryland leaf this July 1 were 63.9 million pounds

compared with 52.2 million a year ago.

Stocks of foreign cigarette and smoking tobacco (Turkish and other) as of July 1, 1952 totaled 179.2 million or practically the same quantity as on hand the previous July 1. Holdings of domestic grown aromatic tobacco were 0.3 million pounds.

Total fire-cured tobacco stocks of 160.3 million pounds as of July 1. 1952 were very nearly the same as a year earlier.

Stocks of dark air-cured tobacco of 80.4 million pounds were the same as on hand the previous July 1.

### PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AUGUST 15, 1952 WITH COMPARISONS

a/ Revised b/ Preliminary

# NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS

(N.C. PRICES RECEIVED 1909-14 = 100 PERCENT)

COMMODITY	JULY 15 1952	Aug. 15 1952	'Aug. 15 1951	Aug. 15 1950	Aug. 15 1949
	N	ORTH CAROL	INA INDEX	NUMBERS	
ALL FARM PRODUCTS COTTON & COTTONSED GRAINS MEAT ANIMALS POULTRY DAIRY PRODUCTS TOBACCO MISCELLANEOUS RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PAID-0	295 309 188 400 242 240 295	309 314 194 401 273 244 462 316	277 28 2 18 1 44 5 278 236 476 236	28 2 274 181 189 445 402 278 240 236 222 476 508 236 244	
	Ţ	JNITED STA	TES INDEX	NUMBERS	
PRICES RECEIVED	295	295	292	267	245
PRICES PAID INTEREST & TAXES	286	287	282	258	243
RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PAID	103	103	104	103	101

al Ratio of N. C. prices received to U. S. prices baid.

## COMPARISON OF U. S. PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND PARITY PRICES

COMMODITY	PRICES R BY FA		PARITY ( COMPARA) PRICE:	BLE	AVERAGE PRICE AS PERCENTAGE OF_PARITY						
	JULY 15 1952	Aug. 15 1952	JULY 15 1952	Aug. 15 1952	ปับLY 15 '1952	Aug. 15 1952					
		- DOLL	ARS-		- PERCEN	I.					
COTTON. LB	.370 1.98 1.73 .761 1.31 1.75 26.00 20.00 25.50 .26 .433 4.58 a/	.379 2.04 1.73 .780 1.39 1.77 24.90 20.90 25.60 .265 .483 4.77	.344 2.45 1.78 .944c/ 1.45 c/ 1.68 21.00 21.40 23.10 .323 .507 c/ 4.80	.345 2.46 1.78 .944c 1.46 21.10 21.50 23.20 .324 / .508 4.82		110 83 97 85 95 105 118 97 110 82 92 d/					

Revised by Preliminary
Transitional parity, 85 percent (90 percent during 1951)
of parity price computed under formula in use prior to January 1, 1950

Percentage of seasonally adjusted prices to parity prices

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS AUGUST 15, 1952 WITH COMPARISONS

i	FEED PER	NORTH (	CAROLINA	UNITED STATES			
	HUNDREDWEIGHT	JULY 15 1952	AUG. 15 1952	JULY 15 1952	Aug. 15 1952		
ì			DOLL	ARS			
	MIXED DAIRY FEED UNDER 29% PROTEIN						
ı	ALL	4.40	4.45	4.42	4.45		
ı	16% PROTEIN 18% PROTEIN	4.20	4.25	4, 29	4,33		
ı	20% PROTEIN	4.70	4.70	4.60	4.62		
i	29% - OVER HIGH PROTEIN FEEDS	5.60	5.80	5.57	5.65		
ı	LINSEED MEAL			5.21	5.33		
ı	SOYBEAN MEAL	5.50	5.50	5.69	5.85		
ı	COTTONSEED MEAL	4.70	4.70	5.23	5.30		
ı	MEAT SCRAP GRAIN BY-PRODUCTS	6.40	6.60	6.40	6.48		
ı	BRAN	4.15	4.05	3.67	3.74		
ı	MIDDLINGS	4.25	4.15	3.87	3.95		
ı	CORN MEAL	4.85	4.90	4.35	4.37		
ı	CORN GLUTEN		•	4.22	4.22		
i	LAYING MASH	5.50	5.50	5.25	5.30		
	SCRATCH GRAIN	4.75	4.80	4.66	4.65		

#### JULY HATCHING (Continued)

of the factors limiting the output of chicks. The demand for broiler chicks during July was fair with weekly placements showing a seasonal decline during the month.

Chicks produced in North Carolina during the first 7 months of this year totaled 43,046,000 compared with 39,947,000 during the same period last year. This was a gain of 8 percent and was due mostly to an increased demand for broiler chicks.

### JUNE CLOTHING PRICES SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN MARCH

Clothing items purchased by farmers decreased slightly during the quarter ended June 15, 1952 (See table below). No item decreased as much as 10 percent. The percentage decrease of most items amounted to 5 percent or less.

Woolen trousers, cotton work shirts, undershirts, and knee length rubber boots showed the highest percentage decrease in prices during the quarter.

AVERAGE PRICES PAID BY NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARMERS FOR SPECIFIED CLOTHING ITEMS WITH COMPARISONS 1951-52

		N	ORTH CAROLIN	UNITED STATES			
ITEMS	UNIT	MARCH 15 1952	JUNE 15 1952	JUNE 15 1951	MARCH 15 1952	JUNE 15 1952	JUNE 15 1951
				DOLL	ARS		
SUITS, WOOL, 1 PAIR PANTS EXTRA TROUSERS, WOOLEN TROUSERS, COTTON OVERALLS SHIRTS, COTTON. WORK. SOCKS, COTTON. WORK. UNDERSHIRTS SHOES, WORK. MEN'S BOOTS, RUBBER, KNEE-LENGTH DRESSES, HOUSE, PERCALE. RAYON PANTIES. SHOES OR OXFORDS, WOMEN'S. MUSLIN, UNBLEACHED 36" WIDE	EACH PAIR PAIR PAIR PAIR EACH PAIR PAIR PAIR PAIR PAIR PAIR PAIR PAIR	40.50 10.50 4.00 3.30 2.20 .66 .79 6.80 5.90 2.95 .62 5.60	40.00 9.70 3.90 3.25 2.05 -61 -75 6.80 6.80 6.90 2.95 -60 5.40 -30 -48	41.50 10.50 3.85 3.30 2.20 .30 .65 .80 6.70 6.00 3.05 .66 5.50 .34	44.80 11.30 4.11 3.48 1.96 .304 .662 .783 7.16 6.17 3.07 .666 .329	43.40 11.00 3.97 3.43 1.90 .297 .65 .766 6.94 6.13 3.04 .655	45.10 11.50 4.14 3.52 2.01 .303 .675 .816 7.13 6.04 3.21 .701

# ANNUAL REPORT OF MANUFACTURED DAIRY PRODUCTS IN NORTH CAROLINA, 1951

(ALL FIGURES IN THOUSANDS)

(ALL FIGURES IN INCUSANDS)														
MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS	UNIT	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	ост.	Nov.	DEC.	TOTAL
BUTTER	LBS.	112	94	114	168	190	126	122	7.6	74	98	57	36	1,267
TOTAL ICE CREAM	GAL. GAL. GAL.	700 640 60	666 607 59	882 803 79	938 852 86	1.233 1.127 106		1.450 1.317 133		1.127 1.036 91	942 70	730 669 61	6 19 570 49	12.137 11.087 1.050
ICE CREAM MIX	GAL. GAL. GAL.	332 104 7	315 108 8	425 156 9	460 161 10	593 210 21	650 233 37	710 254 79	681 229 45	528 205 18	479 192 11	321 120 4	306 103 5	5.800 2.075 254
ICE MILK	GAL.	170	172	233	258	328	372	386	373	306	272	170	140	3,180
WATER ICES	GAL.	60	59	89	114	206	206	195	173	150	136	75	55	1,518
COTTAGE CHEESE CURD	LBS.	75 74	84 85	118	113	132 135	141	137 141	130 134	110 122	118	106 118	90 101	1,354

# PRODUCTION OF ICE CREAM IN NORTH CAROLINA DURING 1951 SLIGHTLY LESS THAN 1950

Ice cream production in North Carolina during 1951 totaled 12,-137,000 gallons compared with 12,675,000 gallons in 1950.

Of the 12,137,000 gallons of ice cream manufactured last year 11,087,000 gallons or 91.3 percent were sold wholesale.

There were 3,180,000 gallons of ice milk manufactured in 1951 compared with 1,608,000 gallons in 1950.

The volume of water ices manufactured increased from 893,000 gallons in 1950 to 1,518,000 gallons in 1951. Sherbet manufactured increased from 220,000 gallons in 1950 to 254,000 gallons in 1951.

Pounds of butter manufactured decreased from 2,482,000 pounds in 1950 to 1,267,000 pounds in 1951.

# FEED PRICES UNCHANGED TO SLIGHTLY HIGHER

Prices paid by North Carolina farmers for feeds during the month ended August 15 were unchanged or slightly higher from a month earlier.

Mixed dairy feed increased 5 cents per hundred pounds due to an increase in the price of 16 percent and 29 percent protein mixtures.

Soybean and cottonseed meal prices were unchanged while meat scrap increased 20 cents per hundred pounds.

Laying mash at \$5.50 per hundred pounds was unchanged from a month earlier while scratch grain increased from \$4.75 to \$4.80 per hundred.

### COTTON SITUATION

Farmers in the Western States this year again increased their proportion of the nation's total cotton acreage—9.1 percent in 1952 compared with 7.9 percent in 1951. Most other States had smaller acreages in cultivation on July 1 than a year ago, with Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, and Texas showing a combined drop of 1,882 thousand acres. The 26,051 thousand acres in cultivation in the U. S. on July 1 was less by 1,866 thousand than a year earlier.

The carry-over on August 1, 1952 was expected to be about 2.4 million bales, slightly larger than on August 1, 1951. Total supply for the 1951-52 crop year was 17.4 million bales-disappearance estimated at 15 million bales.

Disappearance during the 1952-53 marketing season is estimated at 13.3 to 14.6 million bales. This estimate includes domestic consumption of 9.3 to 9.8 million bales and exports of 4 to 4.8 million bales.

On July 17, the President signed the bill which holds the support prices for cotton and other basic agricultural commodities at 90 percent of the parity price through 1954, continues through 1955 the provision that makes "effective the higher of the "new" or "old" parity prices and directs that the price of extra long staple cotton be supported.

### CITRUS OUTLOOK GOOD

The citrus crop still looks promising. Trees and the new crop are in good condition in Florida.

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SEPTEMBER 5, 1952

### FARM REPORT

### WOOL PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST YEAR

The quantity of wool shorn and to be shorn in North Carolina this year is estimated at 209,000 pounds, 18,000 pounds above production in 1951 and 8,000 pounds more than the 10-year average wool production for the State.

The average weight per fleece this year was 5.5 pounds -- two tenths of a pound above last year's average and three tenths above average.

The number of sheep shorn this year is placed at 38,000 head -- 2,000 more than last season but 1,000 below average.

The total United States wool crop for 1952 is estimated at 229,750,000 pounds -- 4 million pounds or 2 percent more than was shorn last year but about 23 percent below the 1941-50 average. The increased wool production this year is due to a larger number of sheep shorn and a record heavy weight of fleece. The weight per fleece of 8.27 pounds compares with 8.24 pounds last year and the average of 8.02 pounds. About 1.5 percent more sheep were shorn this year than last year.

### N. C. TURKEY PRODUCTION (Cont'd)

years to meet a year-round demand for young turkeys 14-17 weeks old weighing 4-8 pounds dressed. A large part of this breed is sold as young turkey fryers and broilers with the remainder being grown out to 6 or 7 months old for the holiday trade.

## U. S. Prices Paid (Cont'd)

modities used in family living averaged the same as in mid-July. Food prices averaged lower, with lower appre and tomato prices more than offsetting increases for most other tood items. Clothing generally was higher.

(See Table on Page 2)

### NORTH CAROLINA & UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, JUNE 1951-52\*

		NORTH C	AROLINA	- 11	UNITED STATES				
SPECIES	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED					ER ERED	TO TAL LIVEWEIGHT		
	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	
	THOUS. HEAD		Thous.	Pounds	Thous.	HEAD	Thous. Pounds		
CATTLE	CALVES 4.3 4.7		5,411 766	5,918 837	1.110.4	1,316.1 650.3	1.056.997 137.052	1.261,500	
SHEEP & LAMBS HOGS	42.0	56.0	9,623	17 11,687	889.6 5,658.4	1.031.5 5,253.3	82.352 1.439.880	96,046 1,301,731	

\*Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other wholesale and retail slaughter; excludes form slaughter - averages are based on unrounded numbers.

### HOG SLAUGHTER CONTINUES AT RECORD HIGH LEVEL

Commercial plants in North Carolina slaughtered a total of 18,459,000 pounds liveweight of meat animals during the month of June. This is a decline of 8 percent from total liveweight slaughtered in May but is 17 percent above the total liveweight of all meat animals slaughtered during June a year ago.

Of the total liveweight slaughtered during June this year hogs amounted to 11,687,000 pounds - the highest of record for June and compares with 9,623,000 pounds in June 1951. The slaughter of other species was at about the average monthly level with cattle totaling 5,918,000 pounds, calves 837,000 pounds and sheep and lambs 17,000 pounds.

The number of animals slaughtered during June at 68,400 head was 5,000 head less than in May with practically all of this decline occurring in swine slaughtered, There were 53,300 head of animals slaughtered in June a year ago and as can be interpreted from the data above the increase in numbers slaughtered this year was mostly for pork.

## FARM MORTGAGE DEBT HIGHER

The total farm-mortgage debt in North Carolina as of January 1, 1952 totaled \$108,206,000 -- up \$6,938,000 or 7 percent over the farm-mortgage debt of \$101,-268,000 on January 1, 1951. Of the January 1, 1952 total debt, Federal Land Banks held \$16,546,000; Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation \$706,000; Farmers Home Administration \$8,473,000; Life Insurance Companies \$8,399,000 and individuals and other miscellaneous lendders \$74,082,000.

For the country as a whole farm mortgage debt continued to rise in 1951 for the sixth consecutive year, reaching a total of \$6,299,576,000 on January 1, This type of debt was 8 percent larger than a year earlier and one of the largest percentage increases noted since The increase during 1951 lifted farm-mortgage debt to about the levels of January 1942, when it totaled \$6,372,277,-000. However, the January 1952 total was still well below the \$10,785,621,000 peak recorded on January 1, 1923. Also, the value of mortgageable property in January 1952 was much higher than in either 1942 or 1923.